

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6 1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200 DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

JIN 0 9 2000

John V. Lujan Superintendent Guadalupe Mountains National Park 400 Pine Canyon Road Salt Flat, TX 79847

Dear Mr. Lujan:

In accordance with our responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing NEPA, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 office in Dallas, Texas, has completed its review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed Draft General Management Plan for the Guadalupe Mountains National Park. The preferred plan would emphasize wilderness values and the restoration of ecosystem processes while also expanding some opportunities for visitors to enjoy easier access to park settings than currently exist. This plan would not result in unacceptable impacts or impairment of park resources or values.

EPA rates the DEIS as "LO," i.e., EPA has "Lack of Objections" to the proposed action as described in the DEIS. Our classification will be published in the Federal Register according to our responsibility under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act to inform the public of our views on proposed Federal actions. If you have any questions, please contact Michael Jansky of my staff at 214-665-7451 or by e-mail at jansky.michael@epa.gov.

EPA appreciates the opportunity to review the DEIS. Please send our office two copies of the FEIS when it is sent to the Office of Federal Activities, EPA (Mail Code 2252A), Ariel Rios Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20460.

Sincerely yours,

Cathy Gilmore, Chief Office of Planning and

Coordination (6EN-XP)